



# At the Theatres.

## At the Academy.

Thursday, Matinee and Night, "The Marriage of Kitty."  
Friday Night, Murray and Mack.  
Saturday, Matinee and Night, West's Minstrels.

## At the Bijou.

Theodore Kremer's Melodrama, "A Desperate Chance," all the week, with the usual matinees.

The order of things at the Academy is reversed this week. Last week the house was dark during the latter part of the week. The first offering this week at that house is Thursday, the Academy being dark until then. There are three attractions at the Academy during the week, they being "The Marriage of Kitty," "Murray and Mack," and West's Minstrels. The Bijou will have one of Theodore Kremer's melodramas, "A Desperate Chance."

## Marriage of Kitty.

Great local interest has already been

play, which is the thing. It was a true 'Weber-fieldian' show from beginning to end. All the experience of these managers in the way of selecting pretty women, clever men, gorgeous costumes and effective scenery has been brought into play, and the result is something quite out of the ordinary. It is a bewildering array of feminine beauty and artistic blending of colors, and the music is of the catchy sort which lingers easily and pleasantly in the memory.

"An English Daisy" has much in it that augurs for success, and it is singularly clean and free from the objectionable matter which too frequently in pieces of this type is interpolated under the name of comedy.

## West's Minstrels.

The famous West Minstrels, which followed the dissolution of the old minstrel firm of Primrose and West, will hold forth at the Academy next Saturday matinee and night. The show this season is said to be the best ever put up under the name of the great old minstrel. The scenic effects have been designed for novel effects, and many well-

that he was innocent, and persuaded her to furnish him with revolvers, and saws, with which he severed the bars of his cell, and, after liberating his brother Jack, they overpowered the guards, and, with the assistance of the warden's wife, who went with them, they escaped and started for Canada. They had only succeeded in getting a short distance when the officers got track of them, and, after an exciting battle, they are recaptured and returned to jail. The two brothers, however, are fatally wounded, and the next day pay the penalty of their misdoings. The final act shows the warden and his wife reunited through their little daughter. This child, by the way, has a prominent part in the unraveling of the plot.

The play will be given each night, with the usual Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday matinees.

## Gossip of the Stage.

It seems odd to characterize a rural drama as thoroughly wholesome, for that is supposed to be one of its strong points, but stop and think of most of the rural plays. They all, with hardly an exception, contain an element that one might well wish had been left out because it marred the sweetness and purity of the country atmosphere. There is nothing of this kind in "Quincy



## TWO OF THE WEEK'S STARS AT THE ACADEMY.

GRACIE CUMMINGS,  
In Murray and Mack's "An English Daisy."

BETTINA GERARD,  
In "The Marriage of Kitty."

evinced in the announcements that the brilliant semi-musical comedy success, "The Marriage of Kitty," will be seen at the Academy on next Thursday matinee and night.

This was the most marked hit of last season in New York at the new Hudson Theatre, where it ran during three months. It will be presented here by Manager Julius Murray's admirable company, headed by Bettina Gerard and Max Figman. Miss Gerard is well known here, and will be remembered as the accomplished prima donna soprano of many comic opera successes, and particularly as Bettina in "The Masquerade." The setting of the piece is precisely similar to that used in the Metropolis.

Kitty, with whose marriage the story is concerned, becomes the temporary wife of Sir Reginald Belsize, to overcome the conditions of a will which prohibits the young beneficiary to marry the woman with whom he is in love, the understanding with Kitty being that she is to consent for a handsome consideration to a divorce after a reasonable time to enable Reginald to marry Mme. de Semilano, a "Peruvian widow."

The whole scheme is put into operation under the personal direction of Belsize's attorney, Kitty's godfather, John Travers. According to the directions of Travers, Belsize and Kitty are to lay the foundation for the action of divorce. He is to come home, full of affection for his wife, and is to find her repentant and cold, and when he attempts to kiss her she is to make a scene and ring the bell.

The servants are to come upon the scene, the lawyer and Mme. de Semilano are to enter from the next room, and there is to be a dramatic denouement of their marital relations, the details of which are to be carried into court and made the issue for a suit on the ground of incompatibility, etc. But as soon as Kitty and Reginald are alone there is a governing impulse of mutual attraction. Under extremely amusing circumstances man and wife fall in love with each other and new complications arise.

## Murray and Mack.

The successful English-American musical comedy, "An English Daisy," which Murray and Mack will present here on next Friday night at the Academy, received the following commendation from the Boston Post:

"An English Daisy" was given its first American production last evening at the Globe Theatre. It is the work of Seymour Hicks and Walter Slaughter, rearranged for the American stage by Edgar Smith, and new music by A. M. Norden. In many respects it bears the earmarks of those transatlantic productions which have been coming here with great regularity for the past dozen or more years, all achieving more or less success.

The present piece differs in that there is more of a plot, in fact several, that are unique and funny, and the music is of a higher standard than is usually to be found in similar entertainments. But the plot makes but little difference. It is the production, not the

known artists of the black-face type have been cast with the company.

## A Desperate Chance.

Next week at the Bijou another melodrama from the pen of the successful author, Mr. Theodore Kremer, entitled "A Desperate Chance," will have its initial production in this city.

All or most of the theatre-going public are familiar with the incidents surrounding the trial and escape of a celebrated Biddle Brothers in Pittsburgh. While Mr. Kremer has followed as near as practicable the facts of the case, he has, of course, elaborated and added, until he has evolved a story of interest that cannot fail to entertain all lovers of the drama. Briefly, the story runs as follows:

Jack and Ed. Biddle have entered the

Adams Sawyer. There is no wronged girl wandering around in the snow looking for her wedding certificate. There is a snow-storm in the play, and a rousing good old New England snow-storm it is, too, but it does not fall on a suffering woman or an erring boy. In fact, there is very little in the dramatization of the popular New England story to cause tears or sighs. The only pathos lies in a few genuine sentimental passages between the title-hero and Alice, the blind girl. The play is built on comedy lines mainly and the ludicrous sayings and doings of the folks at Mason's corner keep an audience in continuous roar.

## Peep in the Theatre.

Vagabonds and Kemper's magnificent spectacular production of Flaubert's "Sa-



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DESMOND KELLEY LEADS,  
In "A Desperate Chance."  
FRANCIS CLINTON,  
As "Little Clara."

grocery store of Kenny for the purpose of robbery. They are discovered at work by the proprietor, whom they shoot. They are suspected, and in attempting to arrest them, a detective is also killed. For these crimes they are sentenced to be hanged. A few days before the execution a respite is gained by a society woman who brought influence to bear on the Governor. During the respite, Ed Biddle, through hypnotic power he possessed, succeeded in convincing the warden's wife

lamb, in which Frederic Ward and Kathryn Kidder are at present winning golden laurels in the Northwest, will be one of the big dramatic attractions to which Richmond theatregoers may look forward in the near future. The company is a large one, and composed of many prominent players. Recently, it is said to be by far the most pretentious production that these enterprising managers have made, and wherever the play has been seen, the production has

been compared favorably with "Ben Hur," "Quo Vadis," and "L'Aiglon."

**Centers About Mrs. Maybrick.**  
Theodore Kremer, the well-known dramatist, is just finishing a play he has been working on for the past three years. It is centered around the famous Maybrick case, and, of course, makes Mrs. Maybrick, as he is fully convinced, the long suffering innocent heroine. In one of the scenes the late Queen Victoria appears, while they are endeavoring to obtain a pardon for Mrs. Maybrick. The play will receive a great production in New York shortly.

## Miss Viola Allen.

Viola Allen made her first appearance as Hermione and Portia in "The Winter's Tale," at New Britain, Conn., last evening. The formal opening will occur at the Broad-Street Theatre, Philadelphia, on October 10th. A very large and a very fine company, has been engaged to support Miss Allen this season, and the production is said to be a very massive and magnificent one. The play was staged by Frank Vernon, the well-known English producer of the Classics, who was brought to this country, especially for this purpose. The costume plates were painted by Thomas Lesliewood and Percy Anderson, of London.

## SALEM.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
SALEM, Va., Oct. 1.—The Roanoke College Collision Club gave a most enjoyable hop at Hotel Crawford Saturday night. Music was furnished by a Roan-



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oke orchestra and dancing continued till a late hour.  
Among those present were: Miss Loomis Logan with Mr. Ward, Miss Lucy Biggs with Mr. Lyle McClung, Miss Besse Galloway with Mr. Howard Holland, Miss Katie Dillard with Mr. Royall Canady, Miss Annie Langhorne with Mr. John Logan, Miss Julia Stockton with Mr. Frank Milroy.  
Stags: J. H. Reese, Fred Rinker, W.

SYCLE'S STORE NEWS.

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\$2.00 Curtains for \$1.55.

\$2.50 and \$3.00 Curtains \$2.39.

\$3.00, \$3.50 and \$3.25 values for \$2.00.

\$4.00, \$4.50 and \$3.75 values for \$3.50.

\$5.50 Curtains for \$4.70.

These goods we bought too many of and only a limited number will be sold at these prices; so come after them early.

## Sircons Colonial Cloth

Underskirts for \$1.00.

They come from America's foremost maker, and they're the best sold anywhere for that price.

There are several styles, and you can be pleased in that respect as well from a saving standpoint.

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There are only about ten dozen left of 'em, and you'd do well to secure your share at a saving of 41c on each; only two to a customer, though.

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New lot of Tan and Black Peg-gys, in extra fine seal, brass trimmed and covered frames, for \$4.48 each.

Black Seal Shopping Bags, 13 inches long, gun metal trimmings, with coin purse and cardcase of the same stock on the inside, \$4.48.

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